तथा इसके संक्रामण को रोकने के कार्यक्रम के एक भाग के रूप में गैर-सरकारी संगठनों के सहयोग से विभिन्न कार्यक्रम चला रही है । इन कार्यक्रमों में शिक्षा, परामर्श, कन्डोम के प्रयोग को बढ़ावा देना, तथा यौन क्रिया द्वारा संक्रमित होने वाले रोगों का उपचार करना शामिल है ।

सरकार भारतीय दण्ड संहिता, अनैतिक पणन (निवारण) अधिनियम, 1956 तथा किशोर न्याय अधिनियम, 1986 के उपबन्धों का कड़ाई से प्रवर्तन सुनिश्चित करने के अलावा, महिलाओं को बेहतर शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य देखभाल तथा आर्थिक शक्ति सम्पन्नता प्रदान करके महिलाओं और बच्चों विशेषकर लड़कियों के स्तर में समग्र सुधार लाने के प्रयास कर रही है । महिलाओं के लिए रोजगार और आयोत्पादन स्कीमें चलायी जा रही हैं, जैसे समेकित ग्रामीण विकास कार्यक्रम, प्रशिक्षण और रोजगार कार्यक्रम हेतु सहायता, महिलाओं के लिए रोजगार-सह-आयोत्पादन एककों की स्थापना सामाजिक-आर्थिक कार्यक्रम, राष्ट्रीय महिला कोष, स्व-रोजगार हेतु, ग्रामीण युवाओं को प्रशिक्षण, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में महिलाओं और बच्चों का विकास, तथा स्वर्ण जयन्ती शहरी रोजगार योजना ।

Female Literacy in Kerala

*147 MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high female literacy level had given the State of Kerala much higher level of development indices than the national average; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction on other States emulating the policy of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) High levels of female literacy in a society does lead to better utilization of socio-economic benefits and leads to higher levels of development indices especially in the fields of education, health, child-care and income generation.

Whereas the level of development indices are determined by the contribution of various socio-economic factors including literacy, high levels of literacy, especially female literacy, acts as an important catalyst for such development to take place. This fact is also true for the State of Kerala.

(b) There is no doubt that Kerala's overall social and educational conditions have contributed to the Development process of the State. This was a consequence of the liberal socio-economic policies of the native rulers, liberal social structure, higher status of women in society and a tradition of social reforms movements which had created a conducive environment for various development programmes.

The reaction of Government can only be positive if other States adopt methods of development based on expanding base of literacy especially female literacy. If an educationally oriented development approach is adopted, pace of development is expected to improve.

Release of Rice/Wheat Quota for PDS to Orissa

*148. DR. M. N. DAS: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of wheat/rice quote released by Government under the PDS to Orissa during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have received any request from the State Government for increase of the quantity;

(c) if so, action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Details of the quantity of wheat/rice released under the Public Distribution System (PDS) to Orissa during last three years *viz.* 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98 are as under:—

(IN '000MTs)

	Rice		Wheat	
	Allotment	Offtake	Allotment	Offtake
1995-	790.00	365.70	420.00	238.00
96	1012.00	592.90	451.00	419.60
1996-	715.40	550.84	299.00	207.19

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Orissa State is currently being allotted an additional quantity of 25.500 tonnes of rice and 40,000 tonnes of wheat per month at Central Issue Prices applicable for the families Above Poverty Line (APL) over and above the normal monthly quota under Targeted Public Distribution System.

Tenders for Pulses in Super Bazar

*149. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Super Bazar is purchasing pulses on fortnightly tender basis;

(b) if so, what are the reasons that tenders on fortnightly basis are not being called these days, but are being delayed;

(c) whether any understanding has been reached between the authorities and the tenderers in this regard; and

(d) if so, whether there is any proposal to order an investigation into the matter and to bring to book the guilty au thorities and to order tenders for pulses, immediately?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) to (c) The Super Bazar has informed that they make purchase of pulses on tender basis. The validity of contract for supply of pulses is initially for a period of 15 days which can be increased or decreased at the discretion of the management. The Super Bazar has further informed that the tenders were being called for at regular intervals. However, in the recent past, 10 varieties of pulses were not included in the tender for a short period as an agreement was made between the suppliers and the Super Bazar for supply of pulses as per the wholesale rates published by the Directorate of Consumer Affairs, Govt. of NCT of Delhi in newspapers. This system has since been discontinued as the Delhi Administration has stopped publishing wholesale rates in the newspapers. Presently, the tenders are floated for all varieties of pulses and orders are placed on the lowest tenderers.

(d) The Super Bazar has informed that no irregularities have been committed in the purchase of pulses.

Appointment of Member Secretary of ICPR

*150. SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased state:

(a) the names and addresses of the Chairman/Members/nominated Members of the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR);

(b) whether a Member of the Govern ing Body of the ICPR has been assigned